

Kolak, Shari



From: Kolak, Shari
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2014 4:58 PM
To: Wagaw, Wally (DEQ); Tracy, Carol Hefferan (DEQ)
Subject: Methane and VI - West KL

Wally,

Just trying to understand MDEQ's concern. The passive landfill gas system was converted to an active gas collection system in 2008 (probably due to the consistently high methane gas readings from the perimeter gas monitoring probes in 2006-early 2008). Since 2008, there has been no detections of methane in any of the 23 perimeter gas monitoring probes, with the exception of one sampling event on July 15, 2011, which the PRP attributes to a calibration issue. From July 26, 2011 to today, there has been no detections of methane (there was a 0.1% detected in 10/12 but this concentration is very low). You can find this data in the Semi-Annual report for January to June 2013 dated July 19, 2013.

Given methane has not been detected in any perimeter gas probe from 2008-2013 (except in July 2011), why is MDEQ concerned about VI in nearby residences?

In addition to the perimeter gas probe data, I also looked at the groundwater data to determine if methane is present in the RA monitoring wells. Methane was detected at 18 ppm and 19 ppm in monitoring wells P-67 and P-63 respectively, which is located near Skyview Estates. I am working with our risk assessor to determine whether 19 ppm methane in groundwater could potentially create a VI issue. Methane is not toxic so what I'm concerned about is a physical (fire/explosion) hazard. P-67 is screened at 88-93 ft bgs and P-63 is screened at 117-122 ft bgs. Given this, I'm also trying to find out whether methane at this depth could cause a potential VI issue.

From: Wagaw, Wally (DEQ) [mailto:WAGAWW@michigan.gov]
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2014 4:06 PM
To: Tracy, Carol Hefferan (DEQ); Kolak, Shari
Subject: RE: KL Avenue Landfill Trend Charts

In 2002, the MDEQ performed vertical soil gas surveys near the landfill and close to nearby residences to determine if landfill gas migration was an imminent threat at the site. MDEQ found elevated levels of methane in the soil gas near the landfill but not in the nearby residences. A landfill gas flare was put in place in 2008.

I was kind of surprised that Methane was not listed as an issue on this FYR. It is there but as a side-issue. That's one of my comments in this FYR. It must be an issue and Vapor Intrusion study must be conducted in the nearby residences as we now have better techniques at our disposal to evaluate methane.

I am on my out for the day and will be back on Monday.

Thanks.

Wally

From: Tracy, Carol Hefferan (DEQ)
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2014 4:38 PM

To: Kolak, Shari
Cc: Wagaw, Wally (DEQ)
Subject: RE: KL Avenue Landfill Trend Charts

There was considerable testing for methane gas back when Mark Henry was associated with the site. And they didn't find any except close to the landfill, apparently. The plume is quite deep -- over 100 feet in most places, and methane will degrade in aerobic vadose zones --- so that is probably the reason why methane gas has not been found to be a problem. Being out here in Vermont and not having much time to look, I cannot locate or point you to specific documents. But, Wally may be aware of some of the previous soil gas sampling that was done. So it is the depth of the plume that is to our advantage on this issue. Hope that helps. I am copying Wally in case he can add to this by finding specific test results.

I'll be back at the office on Monday.

Carol

Carol Tracy, Senior Geologist
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Superfund Section, Remediation and Redevelopment Division
Geology and Defense Site Management Unit
tracyc1@michigan.gov
Phone Number: 517-284-5161

From: Kolak, Shari [<mailto:kolak.shari@epa.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 16, 2014 1:11 PM
To: Tracy, Carol Hefferan (DEQ)
Subject: RE: KL Avenue Landfill Trend Charts

Hi Carol,

Not sure if your still out of the office; if you are, then sorry to bother you.... BUT there's a pressing issue that I need to resolve before I meet with management tomorrow. One of MDEQ's concern regarding the FYR is the possibility of methane in soil gas at nearby residences. Is the concern an explosion hazard or toxicity?

From: Tracy, Carol Hefferan (DEQ) [<mailto:TracyC1@michigan.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, April 10, 2014 2:23 PM
To: Kolak, Shari
Subject: RE: KL Avenue Landfill Trend Charts

Shari if you find any problems, they will be my fault. I worked on these with my small screen laptop, in between watching my grandkids :o) I think they are all OK, but let me know if you want anything fixed.

Carol Tracy
Senior Geologist
Superfund Section, Remediation Division
Department of Environmental Quality
517-335-3396
tracyc1@michigan.gov

From: Kolak, Shari <kolak.shari@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 10, 2014 3:06 PM
To: Reid, Diana (DEQ)

Cc: Wagaw, Wally (DEQ); Tracy, Carol Hefferan (DEQ)
Subject: RE: KL Avenue Landfill Trend Charts

Thanks!

From: Reid, Diana (DEQ) [<mailto:REIDD@michigan.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, April 10, 2014 1:41 PM
To: Kolak, Shari
Cc: Wagaw, Wally (DEQ); Tracy, Carol Hefferan (DEQ)
Subject: KL Avenue Landfill Trend Charts

These are the charts requested. Please let me know if you have any questions or do not receive all of them. Thank you.

Kolak, Shari

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